

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to urge you to support the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. Although I am not a DIRECTV customer, I am a Dish Network customer & I believe the merger will increase video and broadband choices for consumers like me because the combined company will provide increased competition to cable companies. It continues to disappoint me that the city of Louisville, KY has NEVER had any competition for Insight Communications (current cable provider) Cable service & we have been forced to use this cable service to receive local channels vs. using an antenna.

The combined company will be a much stronger competitor to cable operators by being able to offer me local TV channels via satellite in my market area, which I currently do not receive as stated above.

I currently have broadband access to the Internet, but the combination of EchoStar and HUGHES will result in increased competition in the broadband market by providing an affordable high-speed Internet service nationwide via satellite.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Derek Collins
2914 Gleeson Lane
Louisville, KY 40299